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PRESS RELEASE

***Gunnison is named a Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the
League of American Bicyclists
Come enjoy the great outdoors in and around our community!***

Washington, D.C. – May 14, 2012 – May is National Bike Month with hundreds of events and thousands of riders celebrating bicycling nationwide. A growing number of U.S. communities are taking steps to encourage residents to ride all year round — including Gunnison, Colorado. Today, the League of American Bicyclists announced the latest round of Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFC) and the City of Gunnison was named a **SILVER LEVEL** Bicycle Friendly Community.

“We are not surprised that this was the largest number of new and renewing applicants that we’ve ever had,” said League President Andy Clarke. “The popularity of this program is clear evidence that investment in bicycling is a major catalyst in creating the kind of vibrant communities people want to live, work and visit. The city of Gunnison recognizes that simple steps to make bicycling safe and comfortable pay huge dividends in civic, community and economic development.”

The BFC program is revolutionizing the way communities evaluate their quality of life, sustainability and transportation networks, while allowing them to benchmark their progress toward improving their bicycle-friendliness. With this impressive round, there are now 214 BFCs in 47 states across America. The Silver BFC award recognizes Gunnison’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

“The citizens of our community and City of Gunnison staff have worked relentlessly to create a safe environment for bicyclists and pedestrians. Our Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee provides guidance in education, enforcement, infrastructure, and events that promote this effort and are proud to have moved from Honorable Mention to Silver Level,” stated Ken Coleman, Gunnison City Manager.

The BFC program provides a roadmap to building a Bicycle Friendly Community and the application itself has become a rigorous and an educational tool in itself. Since its inception, more than 500 distinct communities have applied and the four levels of the award – platinum, gold, silver and bronze – provide a clear incentive for communities to continuously improve.

To learn more about the free BFC program, visit bikeleague.org/community.

About the Bicycle Friendly America Program

The Bicycle Friendly Community, Bicycle Friendly State, Bicycle Friendly Business and Bicycle Friendly University programs are generously supported by program partners Bikes Belong and Trek Bicycle’s One World, Two Wheels Campaign. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica/>

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America’s 57 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. For more information or to support the League, visit www.bikeleague.org.